Textile processing activity has been brought within the purview of Textiles (Development and Regulation) Order, 1993.

Anti-Dumping Laws Imposed by European Commission on Indian Textiles

2699. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that exports worth more than Rs. 880.00 crore which include exports of unbleached cotton fabric worth Rs. 640.00 crore, bed linen worth Rs. 240.00 crore besides shop towels and gauze cloth are at state due to anti-dumping laws imported by European Commission in respect of exports to European Union countries;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government to protect the interest of Indian exporters;

(c) whether European Commission had fixed any criteria for invoking the anti-dumping laws; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R. L. JALAPPA): (a) It is true that exports worth Rs. 600 crores of unbleached cotton fabrics may attract anti-dumping duties under the anti-dumping proceedings initiated by the European Commission in respect of exports of this item to the member states of the European Union. The European Commission has also recently initiated anti-dumping proceedings relating to import of cotton type bed-linen into the EU Members from several countries, including India.

(b) The Government through the Embassy of India, Brussels, have been actively pursuing the matter with the concerned authorities in the European Commission., Besides, the Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council, Mumbai (TEXPROCIL) has been acting as the nodal agency for co-ordinating the efforts of individual exporters in representing their cases.

(c) and (d) The European Commission has initiated the proceedings on the basis of Council Regulation No. 384/96 dated 22.12.1995 which sets out the principles and methods to be adopted for investigating and imposing anti-dumping duties.

Cotton stocks piling up due to Bumper Crop.

2700. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that stocks of cotton are piling up due to bumper crop during the current year and slow release of export quotas and less demand by the textile mills as compared to last year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/proposed to be taken to deal with the problem;

(c) the target set for export of cotton during the current year and the quota released to the State Governments; and

(d) the details of the proposal received from Government of Maharashtra and action taken/proposed to be taken thereon in looms of the New Policy formulated?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R. L. JALAPPA): (a) The Cotton Advisory Board in its meeting on 24/2/97 has estimated the current crop size to be 160 lakh bales. Daily arrivals of cotton in the market are heavy. Government released substantial export quotas early in the season and even subsequently, in order that there may not be piling of stocks.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No target is set by the Government for export of cotton. However, export quotas for cotton are announced by the Government after taking into consideration all relevant factors, including estimates of production, availability, consumption, likely surplus, price trends, etc. No export quota is released to the State Governments.